

# MAINE FARMER

## AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY WILLIAM NOYES.]

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

[E. HOLMES, Editor.]

Vol. V.

Hallowell, (Maine,) Tuesday, March 7, 1837.

No. 4.

### The Maine Farmer

IS ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING.

TERMS.—Price \$2 per annum if paid in advance \$2.50 if payment is delayed beyond the year.

No paper will be discontinued at any time, without payment of all arrearages and for the volume which shall then have been commenced, unless at the pleasure of the publishers.

All money sent or letters on business must be directed, *post paid*, to Wm. NOYES.

### THE FARMER.

HALLOWELL, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 7, 1837.

#### Improvement in the mode of heating rooms.

In the earlier days of the country, when wood was more abundant than necessary, but very little thought or care was bestowed upon the mode of warming houses. A large fire place was the only desideratum, and as wood was always at hand it was generally well filled and a generous flow of heat was sent from the blazing pile in all directions. This is a comfortable mode of warming houses, and we know of no more pleasant situation of a cold evening, than before one of the large, ample, and capacious fire places of olden time, full of glowing coals and blazing fuel, dispensing, to all around, a copious share of light and warmth. As the country became more cleared and wood more scarce and dear, it became necessary to economize fuel and to study out modes of producing the most heat with the least means. Many modifications of fire places and stoves have been the result. Any one who has gone into the hardware stores for the last six months, or watched the loads of the returning market man, has no doubt discovered that Stoves have been in greater demand for the above time than for many years before. The various patterns of cook and parlor stoves exhibit great diversity of forms and display much exercise of ingenuity.

Whether the common close stoves are as conducive to health as the common fire place admits of a question, but that they are vastly better for preserving the heat of the fuel and therefore for economizing that necessary article, is beyond all doubt. One reason why they are not so healthy, is the fact that the principal part of the air in the room comes in contact with the stove, becomes dried, and is sent back again in that state. The particles of dust with which the atmosphere is more or less loaded also come in contact with the hot iron and become partially burnt or charred and thus yield an unwholesomeness to the atmosphere. Many also contend that the iron itself sends off deleterious effluvia. Be that as it may, these inconveniences may be remedied by care. The dryness of the air may be obviated by keeping clean water upon the stove, which shall constantly send forth moisture to supply that which the air is deprived of. The room should not be allowed to become too dusty, and if any thing unpleasant is derived from the iron itself, the stove may be lined with fire clay. A Thermometer is a useful appendage to a room, by which the extremes of heat

or cold may be easily determined, and the temperature kept at a proper grade.

The heating of rooms, by means of currents of warm water circulating through pipes, must be a very pleasant mode, inasmuch as the heat will be more equable and less liable to vary from one extreme to another.

It would require more experience than we possess to enumerate the kinds and excellences of each pattern of stoves. Olmstead's stove for Anthracite coal, we should think, from a description which we have seen of its principles and plan of operations, must be a very good one. Of cook stoves, perhaps Spaulding's is as good as any. Spaulding's stove, for chambers or other rooms, is very simple and very ingenious, and for common purposes exceeds any thing of the kind which we have as yet seen.

#### Importation of Wheat.

We see by the Baltimore Farmer, that there has been 361,610 bushels of wheat brought into Baltimore since September last. This is more wheat than has been raised in any one year in this State. If it continues to come in after this rate, we shall hardly get a chance to starve to death because there is nothing to eat.

The casualties which befall crops cannot always be seen and warded off, but the negligence which prevents farmers from sowing enough to supply themselves with bread is unpardonable. We hope that our farmers will think of these things, and then ask themselves, in what way can I remedy the deficiency of bread-stuffs? At any rate, they should look out for Number One, in these things, and endeavor to raise bread enough for themselves. Then, and not till then, will they feel themselves as pursuing a profitable employment.

#### "Thou shalt not Steal."

That means, brother Editors, that thou shalt not copy original articles from other papers and palm them off as your own. We are not disposed to be captious or fractious, but we have lately seen so many of our articles passing around as adopted children in other columns and not a single iota of credit given to shew their actual parentage, that we have been induced to cry out against it. One instance this moment before us, is an article entitled "*Sheep—different breeds should be cultivated among us*," now going the rounds but accredited to the "*Auburn Banner*." The Eastern Argus and other papers of Maine are handing it round from that paper. Why! you might have had it months ago from our own mint, if it was of any consequence, and not waited till it had performed the tour of New York and then come down East again with a new cap on. In matters of this world's gear we have no fear of thieves or robbers but don't filch our editorials, it's all we have.

#### A Good Example.

It is with pleasure that we received the following letter. It breathes consolation, and is followed up by some comfort. We hope that others

will follow the example and let us have a chance of life among our brethren of the quill and the type. We will endeavor to deserve it by unwearied exertion.

North Dixmont, Feb. 18th, 1837.

MR. WM. NOYES—Sir,—By Wednesday's mail, your first number of vol. 5th came to hand. I am very sorry, and feel surprised that *practical farmers* do not patronize your paper no more than they seem to do by your statement. I have used every exertion in my power to extend your subscription list in this vicinity and elsewhere, but people in general extend their patronage to the political papers of the day, rather than to one that is truly useful and would be a lasting benefit to themselves and families hereafter. I am not a farmer myself, but I have concluded to request you to forward me three more numbers of the Farmer for one year and if I cannot find people who will take them from me, I will at the year's end become responsible for them myself. If all the *Post Masters* in this State would adopt the plan I have adopted, there would be quite an addition to your list of patrons and be but a trifling consideration on their part. In haste, I am Sir, very respectfully, yours &c.

EBEN R. JENNISON.

### ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

#### Agricultural Implements.

MR. HOLMES,—I am inclined to believe that the farmers of Maine have heretofore suffered for the want of tools and the Kennebec County Agricultural Society have so understood it. They have been the means of improving the plough.

Among the many I have used, I like Col. Stone's cast iron plough with a wrought iron coulter for ploughing sword land, the best. The Society by offering premiums have been the means of introducing the cultivator, which will be advantageous to the farmer, both as it respects time and the more complete pulverization of the soil. The roller has also been useful and will continue to be so. According to what I hear, for I have no experience, the dull plough will be the most beneficial of any improvement. This we are now destitute of.

May not the premium on the cultivator be dispensed with and also the premium for the augur to bore for marl, (both of which have been introduced and exhibited,) and such a sum offered as a premium on the dull plough as will bring one into this county. According to a publication which I received from Mr. Evans, our representative in Congress, all the small grains will produce 20 per cent. more for being drilled and a saving of seed and a more sure crop be the consequence also. I heard an address at Winthrop in the fall of 1834, in which the orator mentioned the drill plough as the greatest means of increasing the crop of the small grains and especially wheat. I can well conceive that when wheat is sowed in rows it admits the air more readily among the wheat, and that the straw will be stiffer and thinner and not so likely to lodge and blast. At any rate, I wish the drill plough to be placed within my reach until I can try the experiment to my satisfaction.

ELIJAH WOOD.

Winthrop, Feb. 1837.



## Use of Garget in diseases of Sheep.

Mr. HOLMES—I consider sheep husbandry next in importance to the raising wheat in the best manner in the State. It never will do on most farms to raise our own bread and depend on the sale of wool and sheep to procure the necessary article, but make the sheep conduce to the raising bread and profit by both breadstuffs and wool together with the sale of so many sheep from the flock as can be spared. Nothing that relates to the health of that useful animal, the sheep, can be unimportant. I therefore will take the liberty to state one fact in regard to them. I have a Buck of the best shape, which in years past, has yielded seven pounds of the best well washed wool. I put him out in the fall of 1835 to Amasa Tinkham, Esq. In the month of February following, he appeared diseased and Mr. Tinkham notified me of it, and by the aid of tar put upon the nose and good keeping, he recovered and was returned in tolerable order, in the spring of 1836, but with his advice not to attempt to keep him another winter, as he would certainly die.

During the last summer he became fleshy, and I permitted him to go with my home flock, consisting of more than forty ewes. Early in February his head became stopped up, and he had sore eyes, notwithstanding his nose was well tarred and had been all winter. I renewed the tar however, and opened the skin in his neck, in what shepherds and farmers call dewlop, rather low down, and put in a suitable piece of dry garget and tied the wool together tightly to keep it in. His health very soon became good and has remained so for about three weeks, and it appears likely to remain so. I examined it this day and found a considerable sore with the garget still in it. ELIJAH WOOD.

Winthrop, Feb. 22, 1837.

## Nantucket—Albany Barrens, &amp;c. &amp;c.

Mr. HOLMES:—Perhaps the readers of the Farmer may think this is a droll caption for a communication; but reader if you will have patience, I will tell you what I was thinking about them, and then you may judge of its propriety. Something like sixteen years ago, I was on the far famed Island of Nantucket,—having made a harbor there, in consequence of adverse winds, and being detained two or three days, waiting for the 'whisking wind' to change. After visiting an old acquaintance or two, I walked about to view its peculiarities; for, though it is not an hundred miles from the main, there are as many peculiarities there, as any one place I ever visited. To be sure, there are whale ships in New Bedford, and some other places, with coopers' shops, and other necessary accompaniments of the whaling business. But to think that rational beings should ever think of seriously engaging in such business, in a place subjected to so many embarrassments, puzzled me exceedingly. In the first place the shallow water, on the bar at the mouth of the harbor, over which they can scarcely float their ships when light, presented a formidable difficulty. And then no timber or wood on the island—and but little land cultivated—every thing to bring from abroad; and then their oil to send abroad to market. But notwithstanding all this, Nantucket has carried on this business, and many of her citizens have been made rich. But how much soever I was surprised at this, I have found no matter of wonderment in their introduction of the silk manufacture.

And what, the reader will say, of 'Albany Barrens,' did you ever see them? Yes, reader, I have seen them twice. And what did you see? the

reader will say. Why, I saw to appearance as poor a soil as lay out doors. About thirty years ago, for a few miles from Albany on the turnpike from thence to Skenectady, scarce a trace of civilization was to be seen. Spots were cleared, to be sure, but they produced nothing but taverns; seldom a spot fenced for even a garden.

But now, though I have not seen it, they tell us that Judge Buel, (and perhaps many others,) has a farm in a high state of cultivation, on this once barren soil. Yes, a farm producing most luxuriantly the comforts and even some of the luxuries of life.

Farmers of Maine, don't you feel ashamed to whine about your difficulties, and tell that you can't live in this country, and all that? Think of the Nantucketers; you never had half the obstacles to encounter in the prosecution of agriculture here, which they encountered in their favorite pursuit. And think of the New York folks; (though some of them have the best of land;) they couldn't all have good land more than you. But by thinking and doing they make things go, and so may you.

Peru, 1837.

J. H. J.

## Farming in Maine.

Mr. HOLMES:—I will send you for publication, in your useful paper, some account of my farming operations for the past year, though on rather a small scale, yet they show that even in this cold and sterile State, industry, when properly applied, is bountifully rewarded. My farm consists of about 70 acres, the most of which, when I purchased it, 14 years ago, was a forest. I have performed the principal part of the labor on it, from the first, myself, being unable to hire but little. The produce of the last year is as follows:

Hay, by estimation, 25 tons—Wheat, 142 bushels—Oats, 108 bushels—Potatoes and turnips 430 bushels—Apples, 30 bushels—Corn, 6 bushels—3 cart-loads of Pumpkins, besides garden sauce, &c.

The amount of labor expended, was that performed by myself and two boys, one thirteen, the other nine years of age, with about twenty days of occasional labor.

I am aware that my crops look small by the side of those of many other farmers, but considering the small expense of growing them, I am encouraged to persevere in my labors, and if others should be stimulated to increased exertion in tilling the soil, I shall be amply repaid for writing.

One word as to fodder, &c. The latter part of Nov. last, I bought a Hay and Straw Cutter, (Green's patent) at the cost of \$30.75. I have cut nearly all my fodder this winter, except what my sheep have eaten, mixing hay and straw together, and I find my expectations, as to the economy of the practice, more than realized—the labor of cutting is small, and the saving of fodder great. I think my machine will pay for itself in two winters.

Finally, Sir, I am satisfied that if all my brother farmers would take the Maine Farmer—pay for it—read it—study it, and practice accordingly, not forgetting the poor—the widow, and the fatherless, and the various benevolent objects of the day, we shall not soon have another opportunity to take two dollars per bushel for wheat, nor hear the cry of hard times, and high prices of provisions.

HORACE WILDER.

North Dixmont, Feb. 1837.

P. S. If you think this worthy of a place in the Farmer, perhaps, at a future time, I shall say something upon raising wheat, potatoes, &c.—likewise on the use of the roller on grain grounds.

H. W.

## Canada Thistles.

Mr. HOLMES:—In looking over Vol. 3 of the Maine Farmer, I was much pleased with "Uncle Eben's" mode of destroying this nuisance. I believe he has got the right notion, and am willing to endorse his theory with the following statement of facts.

Some 8 or 10 years ago I was in the habit of going to my neighbor's yard for water—it was completely covered with Thistles, as were the streets in front and rear of my house. When they were fairly in blossom, I mowed them, without any regard to the age of the Moon, believing as I had often been told, that by mowing at this stage of their existence, they would be destroyed, as the stalks being hollow, the rains would remain in them and rot the roots,—during a residence of 3 or 4 years in the same place, I saw few or no thistles where I mowed them.—I then removed to another house, in front of which was a yard about 4 by 8 rods, which was well covered with thistles, at the same stage of their existence as in the former case. I mowed them, with this difference in the result: the next year I had twice as many. I mowed them again with no better success.—I left the house, the next spring. My successor mowed them when in blossom, as I had done, and they were nearly or quite destroyed. The last season I noticed the place frequently, and could not discover a Thistle.

From my experience I am satisfied that there is no particular time in the growth of the Thistle that mowing will kill them, but believe with "Uncle Eben," that by mowing them on the decrease of the Moon, they will be destroyed. This is as rational as to believe a slight sprinkling of salt will destroy a root that varies from six inches, to as many feet in depth, and of "no particular length." I do not believe the Moon has any thing to do with making soap, but I believe it has much to do with vegetable life, that timber cut on the increase of the moon will last longer than that cut on the decrease, and in confirmation of this, I intend sending you the result of an experiment made by an observing and intelligent man, as soon as I can see him and get his written statement of what he once communicated to me verbally. G.

## Raise more Clover Seed.

Mr. EDITOR:—Since it has been discovered that the article of wheat can successfully be raised on a clover ley, which clover ley, cannot be produced without clover seed, which is now known to be dear, and scarce, owing, no doubt principally to fodder having been very dear, in the year 1835-6; therefore, farmers saved none of their grass for seed.—The summer following, calculating on hay bringing a great price in all after time, they raised very little hay seed, and sold off such great quantities of stock, and comparatively few mouths being left to consume hay, of course it has become reasonably low in market. This, therefore, is a favorable time to urge the raising of clover seed the ensuing summer; by which means much more wheat will be raised, and we Farmers shall not be under the needless necessity of 'going to New York to mill.'

Since clover seed has become so valuable an article, we need not fear loss, by raising of it.

A FARMER.

## Sheep Husbandry.

Extract of a letter from a subscriber in Maryland to the editor of the Genesee Farmer:

"While I have my pen in hand, it may not be amiss to give you a brief account of the very



hand-some profits which I have realized from a small flock of sheep during the past year. When I came into possession of my farm a short time since, I found on it twenty ewes of a very indifferent breed, and of that breed not the best in age, size, or in any other respects. They were fed during the last winter on corn fodder, with the addition of turnips for a few days about the time of yearling. After this, (the early part of March) they received no food except what they could find for themselves in the fields. These sheep, thus treated, yielded an interest during the following summer, of 87 per cent, on the sum for which they could have been readily purchased the preceeding fall, as follows:

20 Ewes at \$5,	\$100 00
22 Lambs at \$3,	66 00
50 lbs. of wool, at 42 cts.	21 00
	<hr/> \$87 00

It is maintained by some writers in Agricultural papers that the manure of this animal is a full equivalent for all the food which it consumes; but supposing this to be an exaggerated estimate, and the manure of this number of sheep during a year would be less in value than their food by \$50, still there is nett interest of 37 per cent.

Is it not surprising, and much to our discredit too, that when such are the profits of sheep husbandry, we should import such large quantities of wool? and also that persons should leave their pleasant homes in the Northern and Middle States, for the wilderness of the "West?"—*Genesee Far.*

#### Stall Feeding—Manure—Ruta Baga.

J. BUEL, SIR,—I have been a subscriber to your agricultural paper for the past year, and always feel rejoiced when the day of its reception arrives. I feel so much interest in my profession, that it is pleasing to know able men sometimes contribute their experience and knowledge to the world, through the channels of periodicals. Yet I am sometimes constrained to smile at their want of foresight, when treating of any particular subject on agriculture.

Manures and green crops are, to a farm, the two *indispensables*, without which no poor farm can be recruited, or good constituted land be "kept up." A correct estimate of the former seems to be little considered in the view of most farmers, though all will admit it to be of the utmost importance. Our farmers, too, think too much of the opinions of Europeans, without exercising their own judgment. I do not wish to condemn British husbandry; far from it; I only desire that our own agriculturists may depend more upon the dictates of nature. If she is rightly followed, all agricultural proceedings will be perfect. A communication on "Winter Stall Feeding" is, in my opinion, the wrong way to fat cattle profitably in this country. If nature tie her bullocks by the neck, I will then admit it to be correct. English authorities are quoted who ought to know, how to fat cattle; but sir, bear in mind, we are not in England. Providence here provides the animals with a coat sufficient to stand the severities of our winter.\* In our western wilds, thick woods, whose leaves hang till spring opens, protect them from the rains and winds—all that is necessary in our Atlantic states. Good food, good buildings, and sheds exposed to the south, sufficiently protected from our cold winds and driving rains, up to their knees in clean litter, is the only way to fat cattle in America. Give cattle all this, they will not move about more than is consistent with a healthy state of body. Confine them in stalls twelve months, they will have the liver complaint, and perhaps some other disease incumbent upon confinement. All domestic animals, when fattening, will generally lie down after eating, and keep sufficiently quiet to admit the process of "taking on fat" to go on as fast as habits, constitution, &c. of the beast will allow. But the great point to be gained, even admitting

\* Admitted, so far as regards health, but not so far as to favor the propensity to fatten. Providence has provided neither winter food nor shelter for neat cattle in lat. 42: they are not indigenous to this climate, and must depend on man for aid. Admitting that open sheds and exercise are most conducive to the health and hardiness of stock cattle, it does not follow, nor do we think that such is the fact, that they are most favorable, to the conversion of food into flesh.

that loose cattle will consume one-third more food, to obtain the same weight of beef, (as for destroying food, that is the master's fault, not the animal's) you must bear in mind, that two-thirds more manure are made by proper management, over stall feeding. A steer or other animal ought to manure from two to two and a half acres per year. This is not theory, it has, is, and can be done again. Stall feeding will not do one-half of this. When farmers can see far enough ahead to combine two or more qualities together, there will be some hopes of agriculture improving with rapid strides.

I am glad to find the Swedish turnip has got into vogue. I hope farmers will not be disappointed, or too sanguine respecting its comparative value with corn. The two combined are by far the best and quickest mode of fattening. Two bushels of Swedes are not worth one of corn. I was educated with a turnip grower; have always considered them the staple of cattle crops; but in point of nutriment would be willing to exchange four of turnips for one of corn. Another great advantage in the turnip, is the increase in the barn yard. Although cattle do not consume one-third as much fodder, and often refuse drink, the manure heap is increased one-half over dry feeding, and is infinitely better.

My turnip crop last year, seven acres, and that in a thickly planted orchard, paid me \$23 per acre, and fed seven head of stock, and eight pigs, until April. What crop pays better? This year, for the first time during my agricultural experience, it has been a total failure, not producing sufficient to pay the expenses.

You will find me but a poor writer, but as I write from pure motives, and a desire of imparting what I know, as the result of strict observation and experience, must excuse errors, &c.

Yours, &c.  
New-Jersey, Jan. 1837.

A. B. C.  
[Cultivator.]

#### Impolicy of Burning Green Wood.

Few things show the tenacity with which we cling, even after the clearest demonstration that such is the truth, to antiquated error, than the fact that there many individuals at the present day who religiously believe, and what is worse, so far as regards the comfort of themselves and families, practice the doctrine that green wood for fuel is better, and of course more economical than dry. We think the present season one most admirably adapted to cure such an error as we conceive this opinion to be; and now, while the farmer is suffering with cold fingers from his green wood fire, and he is in good earnest lamenting the leanness of his wood yard, we would request him candidly to review the whole subject, and ask himself whether he had not better desert a position which both sound theory and daily experience show is no longer tenable. The direct experiments of Dr. Black on fuel, and the later ones of Count Rumford on the best mode of producing and economising heat, have, in conjunction with the labors of others, demonstrated the very great loss those sustain who use unseasoned wood for the purpose of fuel. Making an estimate of the various kinds of green wood, hard and soft together, and of the same wood when thoroughly seasoned by exposure to the air, the difference is found to be equal to at least one third of the whole; and if dried at a temperature of 100, the difference will exceed this proportion. Green wood, therefore, contains at least one third its weight of water, and allowing a cord of such wood to weigh three thousand pounds, there will be one ton of wood and half a ton of water in every cord. That the wood will not burn, so long as this water is present in the wood, all will admit; it must therefore be evaporated or driven off in the form of steam; or in other words caloric or heat enough from other sources must be combined with the water to boil away a ton, or about 120 gallons; and as this heat mostly passes off in a latent state, no possible benefit is derived from so great a waste. The amount of dry fuel necessary to perform this operation of boiling away half a ton of water, every farmer can estimate for himself; and we think no one can avoid seeing that whatever this amount may be, it is a total loss to himself. It is true, as many argue, that the consumption of a green stick of wood is less rapid than that of a dry one; but such forget, it seems, that a much larger quantity must be constantly kept on the fire to produce the same degree of heat; and that until the green wood has

absorbed from other sources sufficient heat to expel the water with which it is charged, the fire is dull and the heat feeble; there is an abundance of smoke, but combustion goes on slowly or not at all.

Since the fact of the difference between the weight of dry and green wood as stated above is indisputable, we think that those who have considerable quantities of wood to move would do well to bear it in mind, as by attending to this circumstance, a very great diminution in the amount of labor required may be made; and the striking off the transportation of thirty-three tons in one hundred, all will agree is no trifling affair. To labor is honorable; but it is time our farmers should learn that to expend it needlessly is not profitable.

—*Gen. Farmer.*

#### Swelled Throat of Hogs.

A disease commonly called by this name, attacked my hogs a few weeks since, and carried off three fat hogs, before my attention was called to it. On examining all my hogs, I found about 20 had the disease. Being then an entire stranger to the disease, I made enquiry among my neighbors, but found they knew but little of it except that it was fatal to nearly all that took it. Shortly after, I took a fat hog which died of the disease, and skinned the throat, then cut out all of the swelled part in one large piece, and then cut it up into small pieces, at each cut finding the pores filled with a slightly colored water, until I cut to a gland, which was filled with a substance which looked like cheese, or white corn meal dough, and about as large as a hulled walnut. I then concluded that, if the throat of the hog was opened to the diseased gland as soon as it was found to have the disease, it might then be saved: and I have since fully proved the fact, by opening about 20 and putting into the incision a mixture of corrosive sublimate and red precipitate. In performing the operation, I lay the hog down, feel for the lump, then cut it lengthwise carefully until I split the diseased lump, which will be known by its discharging dark blood. I then put in the above mixture, and the hog will be well in a few days. In several cases the hogs were so far gone and their throats swelled so much, that I could not precisely find the lump; I then cut a gash about three inches lengthwise on each side of the throat, as deep as I thought safe, and put in the mixture. All have got well or on the mend, I am induced to believe, that if farmers would open the throats of their hogs as soon as they commence swelling, they might be cured in every instance. I would describe the symptoms, but the disease is so common that I think it unnecessary, only to state that the swelling may be discovered by close examination about a week before the hog stops eating, then if not relieved the hog lasts but a few days longer.

#### Prepare for Spring.

As the season is fast approaching when clover and other grass seeds will be sown, we deem it advisable to bespeak for their future pastures and meadows, from our agricultural brethren, a liberal bestowal of seed. He who sows *scantily* must expect to reap in a proportionate degree, or to gather more weeds than hay. In every soil there are ample supplies of the seed of every variety of wild and noxious herbage, and if these are not supplanted by a wholesome covering of artificial grasses, they will inevitably germinate, and show their pestilent fronts to the annoyance of proprietors, and the discomfort of their stock: for the earth will be busy in despite of all the maltreatment it receives at human hands.—*Farmer & Gardener.*

#### The Hollow-Horn.

As this is the season of the year when we may expect this disease to make its appearance among the horned tribe, we would remind their owners, that by pouring a tea-spoonful of the spirits of turpentine in the cup or cavity in the back of the head of cattle, they may save them from the effects of this always unpleasant, and often fatal disease.—*lb.*

Give such hogs as you have in your pen, once a week, a few shovels full of charcoal, or pieces of rotten wood.—*lb.*

Did you make root crops for your stock last year? If you did not, do so this, and next year you will thank us for reminding you of what you ought to do.—*lb.*



## Agricultural.

*From the New York Cultivator.*

### SEVEN REASONS

#### Why Agriculture should receive the Patronage of Government.

1. *Agriculture feeds all.* Were agriculture to be neglected, population would diminish, because the necessities of life would be wanting. Did it not supply more than is necessary for its own wants, every other art would not only be at a stand, but every science, and every kind of mental improvement, would be neglected. Manufactures and commerce originally owed their existence to agriculture. Agriculture furnishes, in a great measure, raw materials and subsistence for the one, and commodities for barter and exchange for the other. In proportion as these raw materials and commodities are multiplied, by the intelligence and industry of the farmer, and the consequent improvement of the soil, in the same proportion are manufactures and commerce benefited—not only in being furnished with more abundant supplies, but in the increased demand for their fabrics and merchandize. The more agriculture produces, the more she sells—the more she buys; and the business and comfort of society are mainly influenced and controlled by the results of her labors.

2. *Agriculture, directly, or indirectly, pays the burthens of our taxes and our tolls,*—which support the government, and sustain our internal improvements; and the more abundant her means, the greater will be her contributions. The farmer who manages his business ignorantly and slothfully, and who produces from it only just enough for the subsistence of his family, pays no tolls on the transit of his produce, and but a small tax upon the nominal value of his lands.—Instruct his mind, and awaken him to industry by the hope of distinction and reward, so that he triples the products of his labor, the value of his lands is increased in a corresponding ratio, his comforts are multiplied, his mind disenthralled, and two thirds of his products go to augment the business and tolls of our canals and roads. If such a change in the situation of one farm, would add one hundred dollars to the wealth, and one dollar to the tolls of the State, what an astonishing aggregate would be produced, both in capital and in revenue, by a similar improvement upon 250,000 farms, the assumed number in the state. The capital would be augmented two millions, and the revenue two hundred and fifty thousand dollars per annum.

3. *Agriculture is the principal source of our wealth.* It furnishes more productive labor, the legitimate source of wealth, than all the other employments in society combined. The more it is enlightened by science, the more abundant will be its products; the more elevated its character, the stronger the incitements to pursue it.—Whatever, therefore, tends to enlighten and increase its labors, must proportionably increase the wealth of the state, and the means for the successful prosecution of the other arts, and the sciences, now indispensable to their profitable management.

4. *Agriculturists are the guardians of our freedom.* They are the fountains of political power. If the fountains become impure, the stream will be defiled. If the agriculturist is slothful and ignorant, and poor, he will be spiritless, dependent and servile. If he is enlightened, industrious and in prosperous circumstances, he will be independent in mind, jealous of his rights, and watchful for the public good. His welfare is identified with the welfare of the state.—He is virtually fixed to the soil; and has, therefore, a paramount interest, as well as a giant power, to defend it from the encroachments of foreign or domestic foes. If his country suffers he must suffer; if she prospers, he too may expect to prosper. Hence whatever tends to improve the intellectual condition of the farmer, and to elevate him above venal temptation, essentially contributes to the good order of society at large, and to the perpetuity of our country's freedom.

5. *Agriculture is the parent of physical and moral health to the State,*—it is the salt which preserves us from moral corruption. Not only are her labors useful in administering to the wants, and in dispensing the blessings of abundance to others, but she is constantly exercising a salutary influence upon the moral and physical health of the state, and in perpetuating the republican habits and good

order of society. While rural labor is the great source of physical health and constitutional vigor to our population, it interposes the most formidable barrier to the demoralizing influence of luxury and vice.—We seldom hear of civil commotions, of crimes, or of hereditary disease, among those who are steadily engaged in the labors of agriculture. Men who are satisfied with the certain and abundant resources of their own labor and their own farms, are not willing to jeopardize their enjoyments, by promoting popular tumult, or tolerating crime. The more we promote the influence of the agriculturist, by developing the powers of his mind, and elevating his moral views, the more we shall promote the virtue and happiness of society.

6. *Legislative patronage will increase the products of agriculture,* and consequently advance the prosperity, promote the moral improvement, and elevate the character of the state. Look at the disparity, in the products and profits of labor, on the well managed and ill managed farm—or in the well cultivated and ill cultivated district. The one, we say, nets a profit of twelve or fourteen per cent per annum, on the nominal value of the land,—the other but two or three per cent—and abundant examples may be furnished of both extremes. The rural improvement of a country indicates, pretty correctly, besides, the intellectual and moral condition of its population. Now if by raising the standard of public instruction, by holding out rewards to successful competitors in improvement, and by establishing schools of practical and scientific agriculture, all of which come within the purview of legislative duties, we could render all our improved lands as productive as those of a like quality, which are well managed, our agricultural products would be quintupled. This we do not expect; but after making due allowance for all drawbacks, it must be apparent to every reflecting mind, that the advantages to the state, from a judicious application of a portion of public monies to promote agricultural improvement, would be manifestly great. We have seen, from a combination of local causes, and in a short period, the agriculture of old settled counties, doubled and trebled. General causes, operating upon the whole state, cannot fail of producing results alike favorable.

7. *Agriculture is entitled to special patronage, as a matter of EQUAL JUSTICE as well as from considerations of sound policy*—because she has had nothing special, while other classes have had much. She shares, in common with all, in the advantages of common schools, and public improvements, and she did receive, in 1817, a pittance, a special pittance, which she has refunded to the treasury, in the form of revenue, with compound interest. The state may be likened to a large family of boys. Five sixths of these have charge of the farm; others are taught trades and handicrafts; and to these two classes is confided the task of providing for the wants of the family. But, as a necessary appendage to a large family, one son is set apart as a doctor, another as a minister, and a third as a lawyer; and to qualify these the better for their respective duties, it is agreed that a portion of the family funds shall be applied to the establishment and maintenance of a school, for their exclusive benefit. Thus while the farmers and mechanics are getting their trades, by labor, in the field and in the shop, the doctor, the parson and the lawyer are getting their professions in the public school. By and by the working boys discover, that, owing to the rapid improvements of the age, school knowledge is as advantageous to the trades as it is to the professions; that there have been great improvements made abroad in their several arts of labor, and that without a knowledge of these improvements, and of the law upon which they are based, they cannot successfully compete with their better instructed neighbors. Feeling themselves entitled to the same favor that has been shown to the doctor, the parson and the lawyer,—desirous of acquiring this useful knowledge in their business so necessary to the common interests of the family, and influenced by a laudable pride to become in fact, what they are in name, on a footing of equality with their already learned brethren,—the working boys now ask the family, to establish for them a school, adapted to their employments, now that the affairs of the family are prosperous. We cannot, say they, acquire the desired knowledge in the doctor's school, because it is not taught there; and because, were it taught, we cannot be

spared from the farm and shop to go after it. We want a school in which we can practice our hands to useful labor, gain instruction in the principles of our business, and at the same time qualify ourselves for the higher duties of social and public life. Is there any thing unreasonable in this request? Or is there ought in it which a wise and prudent family would not grant with alacrity?

The state has expended about three millions of dollars towards qualifying the doctor, the divine, the lawyer, and the gentleman, to discharge their several duties in society, from which the farmer and mechanic can derive but partial, if any, direct advantage. The plainest principles of justice, which accede to all classes an equal participation in the favors of a free government, as well as a provident foresight, require alike some special provision for those who live by the sweat of the brow.

We affect to be above the people of the old continent in all our social and political privileges. To sustain this superiority, we should be above them, too, in our intellectual and moral improvements.—But we are not. We are superficial in too many things. We mistake the name, too often, for the substance. We are satisfied with sowing a few seeds at random, upon superficial tillage, leaving the after culture to chance; and the consequence is, weeds spring up with luxuriance, and often smother and destroy the plants of usefulness. We have but begun in cultivating the mind, the great lever to the arts, and the refiner of human enjoyments. We do not go far enough to ensure the harvest. In many portions of Europe, the mind is brought into early discipline, carefully prepared, and sown with those seeds which promise the best return to the individual and to the community. Take Prussia for an illustration of this remark. There the government provides seven years instruction for every child in the kingdom, at the public charge when the parent is unable to defray it. And what branches of instruction are there taught? Not merely those elementary studies, as reading, writing and the preliminary rules of arithmetic, which constitute the main studies in our common schools—but the sciences which instruct and dignify the useful arts—chemistry, geology, botany, &c.—geography, history, geometry, drawing and music; the mechanic arts and agriculture. Nor does the Prussian government stop here: It provides the schools with the means of teaching this knowledge efficiently. And the primary, or common schools, are not only provided with books and other ordinary matters, but with a collection of maps and geographical instruments, models of drawing, writing, music, &c., with instruments, and collections necessary for studying natural history, and, according to the extent of the system of instruction, with the apparatus necessary for gymnastic exercise, and tools suited to teach the mechanic arts or manufactures in the school. She also attaches to every school in a village, or small town, a kitchen or orchard garden, which is made available for the instruction of the scholars; and to her normal schools, or schools for the education of teachers, a farm, for practical instructions in agriculture. Dr. Channing, in speaking of the Prussian system of instruction, says it is adapted to a monarchy—to bring the minds of subjects in quiet subjection to the will of the sovereign. So far as we have sketched its features, it seems as well adapted to a republic as a monarchy. If a king finds it for his interest to have all his subjects instructed in the higher, or at least most useful branches of knowledge, of how much greater importance is it, that those who are themselves to share in the sovereignty, to make and execute laws, should have their minds early imbued with useful knowledge. In giving these outlines of common school education in Prussia, we give, with trifling variation, the system in operation in Wurtemburgh, Bavaria, and other German states, and which is now being adopted in the French empire. The education of the great body of the people, with the view of implanting good habits, and fitting them, in school, for the various and important pursuits of life, is an improvement of modern times, and one of great moment in a moral and national point of view. It is particularly adapted to the welfare of a free people.

We want schools of science and practice, where the principles and the practice of the useful arts may be simultaneously taught, and the physical and intellectual powers of our youth fully devel-



oped in aid of each other. We want in our common schools a higher grade of studies, as a necessary foundation for increasing the knowledge and usefulness of our people. We want those stimulants to the development of mind, the germination of latent skill, and the practice of useful industry, which are the sure preludes of national prosperity and greatness. We want, particularly, a school, of scientific and practical agriculture, as matter of experiment first; and should it prosper as we think it will, we shall hereafter want other like schools. We have seen the agriculture of England more than doubled in its products, under the vivifying influence of an efficient board of agriculture, patronized and sustained by the government. We have seen Scotland increasing, three and four fold, the productions of her soil, under the active and salutary influence of the very liberal premiums, which have annually, for fifty years, been distributed by her agricultural society. We see France, growing wise from the example of her neighbors, establishing national farms, and sustaining her agricultural societies by appropriations from her treasury; and we see the speedy and happy effects of this patronage, in the new impetus which has been given to the beet culture, and to improvement in her agriculture generally. We have seen our sister Massachusetts sustaining her agricultural societies by liberal annual appropriations from her treasury; and when the law making these appropriations had expired, we have seen her renewing it, thus affording the strongest evidence of its wisdom and utility.—We wish it was in our power to add, that New York, great as she is in territory, in population, in resources and enterprise, had done something great, or generous, or just, to promote the improvement of her agriculture, the great business of her population. We hope the opportunity will be afforded for some one to do it hereafter.

The means which come legitimately within the purview of legislative duties, for promoting improvement in the productive arts of labor, are,—the dissemination, through our common schools, of the elementary principles of natural science, now become indispensable to the successful prosecution of the useful arts;—the patronizing of schools which shall simultaneously teach, practically, at least the great business of agriculture, and the sciences which serve to illustrate, enlighten, and render it more useful and profitable to the state;—to disseminate, through common school libraries, standard works upon husbandry and other common arts of labor; and to encourage the formation of county and local associations of farmers, with the view of calling into useful action, by pecuniary and honorary rewards, the latent energies of our rural population.

"The arts," says Sir John Herschell, "cannot be perfected, till their whole processes are laid open, and their language simplified and rendered universally intelligible. Art is the application of knowledge to a practical end. If the knowledge be merely accumulated experience, the art is *empirical*; but if it be experience reasoned upon and brought under general principles, it assumes a higher character and becomes a *scientific art*. In the progress of mankind from barbarism to civilized life, the arts necessarily precede science. Application comes later; the arts continue slowly progressive, but their realm remains separated from that of science by a wide gulf, which can only be passed by a powerful spring. They form their own language, and their own conventions, which none but artists can understand. The whole tendency of empirical art is to bury itself in technicalities, and to place its pride in particular short cuts, and mysteries known only to adepts; to surprise and astonish by results, but concealed processes. The character of science is the direct contrary. It delights to lay itself open to inquiry; and is not satisfied with its conclusions till it can make the road to them broad and beaten: and in its applications it preserves the same character; its whole aim being to strip away all technical mystery, to illuminate every dark recess, and to gain a free access to all processes, with a view to improve them on rational principles."

The measures we have proposed are not untried experiments, or of doubtful tendency. They have been adopted by governments which we are taught to consider less friendly to, and less interested in, the general diffusion of knowledge, than our own, and the results have justified the experiment. The

British government has caused agricultural surveys to be made of every county in the kingdom, and published these surveys, comprising fifty or sixty volumes, for the benefit of her agriculture. The French government has had collected and published, under the supervision of her minister of the interior, the agricultural works of her most enlightened citizens.—She is now, through her central agricultural society, giving a new and remarkable impetus to improvement in her agricultural labors. As an evidence of her zeal and liberality, and of her wisdom in calling forth useful competition, we are able to state, from documents in our possession, that she has offered to her farmers, for improvements in the beet culture, and in the domestic fabrication of sugar, alone, bounties to the amount of seven or eight thousand francs, or one thousand to fifteen hundred dollars. These premiums are to be awarded the coming spring. The effect of the competition which these bounties to skill and industry are calculated to excite, cannot fail to be greatly beneficial and abiding. She has in a few years increased the products of sugar from her soil to 80,000,000 pounds; while her arable and stock husbandry have been immensely benefitted by the extension of her beet culture; and she is likely successfully to compete, ere long, in our own grain markets.

The scramble for political power having for at least a time abated, and our means of improvement being now ample, the hope has been fondly, though perhaps vainly indulged, that considerations like those we have suggested, would press upon the notice of our statesmen, and induce them to adopt such efficient measures for improving the arts of productive labor as should command the generous applause of the age, and live in the grateful recollections of posterity.

However apt we may be, in our fervor or frenzy to subserve the interests of *self* or *party*, to forget the obligation—we owe duties to our country—to our *whole* country—and to our God—for the performance of which we *must* be amenable—which are paramount to all others; and the faithful performance of which, while it imparts to life its purest enjoyments, affords the only safe hope of a happy immortality. The evil we do, benefits but for a time; the good we do, benefits for time and eternity.

#### TO THE FARMERS OF CANADA.

Agricultural Improvement, by the education of those that are engaged in it as a profession.—No. 2.

What are the advantages that are likely to result, from the useful, practical, and general education of the agricultural class?

To this question I reply, that an improved system of agricultural management would inevitably be introduced, by which it would be possible to augment the produce and returns obtained from the cultivated land, and stock in these Provinces, to double what they are at present, and in many instances, much more; and I am firmly persuaded, that no material improvement will ever be effected in the agriculture of the Canadas, until farmers do become usefully and generally educated. I have not arrived at these conclusions, without giving those matters consideration. I know too well that farmers, above all other classes of men, have an antipathy to change, and object to innovation, and that there is no means of removing their prejudices, but by education, would enable them to examine thoroughly the changes that would be recommended to their notice, and look steadily at all the bearings of questions that would effect their interests. They would then, from conviction of their own minds, adopt with alacrity all measures that would be likely to augment the means of happiness of themselves, and their families. It is then that the natural fertility of this fine country would be taken full advantage of, the fields would be well cultivated, and yield abundant crops: the flocks and herds would be judiciously chosen well managed and fed; good and ample means of internal communication would be provided. All matters in any way connected with agriculture, would clearly exhibit the industry, the skill, and intelligence of those engaged in husbandry, and raise the yeomanry of these Provinces to that high station they are entitled to occupy in this community. If education can produce these results, and no doubt it would, how highly should it be desired

and prized by those engaged in agriculture.—It is true, that agriculture may be practiced by *imitation*, without any knowledge of its theory; but in this case it will generally remain stationary. The mere routine practitioner cannot advance beyond the limits of his own particular experience, and can never derive instruction from such accidents as are favorable to his object, nor guard against the recurrence of such as are unfavorable. He can have no recourse for unforeseen events, but ordinary expedients; while the educated man of science resorts to general principles, refers events to their true causes, and adopts his measures to meet each case.

According to "Parley," any man who keeps possession of land, is under moral obligation to cultivate it to the best advantage. He expresses himself thus:—"But it has not yet entered into the minds of mankind to reflect, that it is a  *duty* to add what we can to the common stock of provisions, by extracting out of our estates the most they will yield; or that it is any *sin* to neglect this." In reference to education, the same excellent writer says:—"In civilized life, every thing is effected by art and skill. Whence a person who is provided with neither (and neither can be acquired without exercise and instruction) will be useless; and he that is useless, will generally be at the same time mischievous to the community, so that to send an uneducated child into the world, is injurious to the rest of mankind; it is little better than to turn out a mad dog or wild beasts into the streets." This is strong language, and on this subject, from a High-Churchman, and a man who certainly was of first rate abilities, should have great weight.—He did not apprehend that education would have a tendency to unfit man for their station in life, whatever it might be.

Dr. Spurzheim said that those who are versed in history, or understand the law of Christian charity, will join those who contend for the benefit of an instruction adapted for ever class of society, and that whoever thinks it right to cultivate his own mind, cannot with justice desire that others should remain ignorant. Indeed, I would go further and say, that those whose education was provided for in youth, and who are now capable of duly appreciating its benefits, are *in duty bound* to do all in their power to extend the blessings of education to every human being, or at least, to all the uninstructed of the same community of which they are members. I expect to be able to establish the fact clearly, that a *judicious* education will diminish crime, and increase the means of human happiness; and if I am able to do this, it is a matter of the first importance in every country, that the inhabitants be *usefully* and *generally* educated; and *more particularly* the agricultural class, who, I maintain, will receive more certain benefit from an education that is suitable for them, and incur less risk of injury to their habits and usefulness, from this education, than any other numerous class of this community. There is much more danger that some of the educated inhabitants of cities and towns would become idle and useless members of society, than that properly instructed agriculturists should become so. But in any situation, the education that will not be productive of good to the individual, must be defective. "The most enlightened are the most reasonable—the most reasonable feel more than others the real interests and motives they have to be virtuous. Without the study of nature, man can never know the relation he bears, nor the duties he owes to himself and others—deprived of this knowledge, he can have neither firm principles nor true happiness. The most enlightened, are the most interested in being the best men"—however lamentable it may be, that we do not find them the best in every case. But we shall, among the uneducated class, discover a much greater lack of virtuous principle and true enjoyment, in proportion, than among the properly educated.

Mind was given to man for cultivation, and the means of cultivation is by education and reading. Like the soil of our mother earth, the more *judiciously* it is cultivated, the more abundant good fruits will be produced for the benefit of the individual and of society. There cannot be a more just comparison made, than of an uneducated man, to an ill-cultivated farm; and a *usefully* educated man, to a judiciously cultivated farm. In the first, the natural product, whether good or bad, is allowed to keep possession to a certain extent,



both in the mind and in the soil, and the general product of what is useful must necessarily be scanty. In the last, on the contrary no plants in the field, or ideas in the mind, are suffered to remain or take root, but such as are useful to man, and these are carefully cultivated, and the produce of good fruits are most abundant.

If these results do not always follow, it will be from the intervention of accidental circumstances, and will not prove the general principles to be incorrect. There may be many defects in the mode and extent of education. So far as the education at public schools, it is not in my humble judgment, necessary that a young farmer's should be carried further than would be practically useful—but it ought not to stop short of this point. A judicious cultivation of the mind is necessary and proper for the agriculturist; but, to proceed further, will, in most cases, be neither convenient nor profitable, more than it would be to expend much money and labor in over-cultivating a farm that would not yield adequate returns, and which is a very possible case. I shall refer to this subject in a future number.

It is a great mistake to compare the agricultural classes in British America generally to what are termed the *peasantry* of other countries, who are mostly persons that have little or no property, more than what they receive for their daily labor, or those who occupy a few acres of land as tenants, paying a high rent for it. On the contrary, the rural population in these Provinces are *proprietors* of ample farms, stock, implements of husbandry, &c. &c. There can be no question of the necessity that exists, that persons circumstanced as the latter class, should receive a suitable education. They cannot exercise their profession to due advantage without being thus qualified; and the loss to this country that is occasioned by the absence of a judicious system of agriculture, and a consequent scanty produce, is enormous.

In the British Isles, within the last fifty years, the produce obtained from agriculture has been greatly increased, and this is to be attributed solely to the improved cultivation and management of soil and stock introduced by educated men. The state of property in those countries will insure the advance of improvement in agriculture, though it should not be through the suggestion of the occupying rent-paying farmer. It will be the interest of the great landed proprietors to proceed with experiments on land and stock, so as to make them as profitable as possible, in order to maintain the rent of lands, &c. on which their annual income chiefly depends. It is not so in British America, the farmers being the *proprietors* of the soil they occupy, they must rely upon themselves for its judicious cultivation. It is for them to judge whether they are competent to do this without receiving a useful and practical education.

To any one acquainted with the real circumstances of the Irish poor, (and the Report of the Poor Commissioners made lately to the British Government, will explain their true state,) it would not be matter of surprise that these wretchedly poor people should be uneducated; but I have known in Ireland, poor men who worked for a miserable daily wages, and who could not obtain one pound of butcher's meat for their family in six months, endeavor to pay a few pence monthly for their children at a country school. They felt their own wretched condition, and expected by giving their children education, which they had not themselves the benefit of, that they might be able to make some improvement in their condition. I admit that the children were not much benefited by these schools, because they seldom had properly qualified masters, and no good general system of education established for the country population up to the time I left. I introduce the circumstance, however, to show that these poor people were willing to deprive themselves of a part of what was necessary to support existence, in order to give education to their children, when they had no more to give them. They were incapable of judging whether their children were educated in such a way as to make it useful to them in after life, and hence it happened, that in most cases the actual benefit was trifling, for the want of proper superintendence and encouragement. In that country, beyond all other countries in Europe, the poor population were most egregiously mis-managed, and poverty and suffering to an appalling extent, has been the consequence for

centuries, and continues up to the present day.

It might be expected that the example of well-managed farms, of which there are several in this country, would be productive of much good. There are many causes which prevent this. As I before observed, strong prejudice exists among farmers, against new modes of cultivation and management of stock, that will not be readily got over, unless by the diffusion of useful education. It is this that will enable the farmer to introduce those prudent changes that will be profitable, and will not allow him to expend labor that is not necessary on cultivation, or capital, on what may be showy rather than profitable.

If a man of capital should occupy land and farm it, more for amusement than profit—he may improve the soil to the highest possible extent, produce abundant crops, and have fine stock. But his neighbors who observe his progress, should they have good cause to imagine that the expenditure exceeds the returns obtained, will receive no benefit from such examples.

What may be considered by some to be the most improved system of agricultural management cannot be introduced in British America, unless it may be made profitable. I confess I cannot look upon any system of Agricultural Management in tillage or stock as entitled to the term "improved," unless it produce *actual profit* to the farmer. Expenditure of capital or labor in any way, that will not give proportionate returns, must be injurious to the community, as well as to the individual who expends it. By *practically and usefully* educating the farmer, he will be able to determine for himself the course he ought to adopt, in the conduct of every part of his business. In vain was all that has been written and published for the improvement of husbandry, if farmers cannot and will not read. The manners and customs of other countries are unknown to him. The wonders and beauties which abound in the world, are of little consequence to the man who cannot make himself acquainted with descriptions that are given of them, and that would place them as if viewed in a glass before him. The usefulness and enjoyment of those so circumstanced, must, indeed be confined within narrow bounds. It is those who have the good fortune to be educated, that will know that education is an essential element of the usefulness of man, to those around him, to the world, and to his own enjoyment.

WILLIAMS EVANS.

Cote St. Paul, Jan. 4, 1837.

[Montreal Courier.]

### Summary.

**FIRE.**—A two story wooden building owned by Mr Sullivan Kendall, and occupied as a grocery store by Messrs. Hayden & Packard, took fire on Monday night, the 27th ult. about half past 10 o'clock. The fire had made considerable progress before it was discovered, but by the energetic and prompt exertion of our citizens the building was saved, in a damaged state, although most of the goods were destroyed. We understand the building and goods were insured. Much credit is due the fire department for their unwearied exertions in subduing the fire, which threatened at one time the destruction of a number of buildings and a large amount of property.

### Ken. Co. Ag. Society.

At the annual meeting of the Ken. Co. Ag. Society, holden at the Masonic Hall in Winthrop, March 1st, 1837, the following business was done, pursuant to the Bye-Laws, viz:

Sam'l Benjamin was chosen Secretary and Librarian.

Charles Vaughan, Esq. *President.*

Gustavus A. Benson, *Vice President.*

Dr. Ezekiel Holmes, *Cor. Secretary.*

Peleg Benson, Jr. *Treasurer.*

Sam'l Wood, Jr. *Collector.*

Dexter Baldwin, *General Agent.*

Sam'l P. Benson,

Nathan Foster,

Oakes Howard,

} *Trustees.*

Paine Wingate,  
H. G. Cole,  
Eliphalet Folsom,

} *Com. on Agriculture.*

G. W. Fairbanks,  
Moses B. Sears,  
James Page,

} *Com. on Stock.*

Elijah Wood,  
Alden Sampson,  
Ezekiel Bailey,

} *Com. on Manufactures.*

*Voted,* That Joseph Wood, Amasa Wood, Alonzo Wood, Wager Hopkins and Sam'l Wood, jr. be admitted members of this Society.

*Voted,* To assess the sum of one dollar on the Members.

Oren Shaw, Peleg Benson, jr. and Summers Pettengill, were elected a Committee of Arrangements.

Persons elected members will please to accept this as sufficient notice of Membership, as well as those elected to office.

*Voted,* To adjourn to the Semi-Annual meeting.  
S. BENJAMIN, *Rec. Secretary.*

### LATEST FROM FLORIDA.

*Another Battle—Captain Mellon killed!*—The steam packet Cincinnati, Capt. Curry, arrived last evening from Garey's Ferry. To Capt. Gale we are indebted for the Jacksonville Courier of Thursday last, from which we extract the following intelligence. The life of another gallant officer has been yielded as a sacrifice to retrieve the honor of his country's arms—and the Seminole still stalks over the desolation of Florida, without the punishment he deserves. We cannot believe that the war is at an end. We fear that the truce with Jesup is but the prelude to renewed hostilities. But—we shall see.

From a correspondent of the Jacksonville Courier.  
Black Creek, 14th Feb. 1837.

Sir—The steamboat John Stoney arrived at this place this morning in which Lieut. Col. Fanning, and Capt. Percy, of the U. S. Navy, came passengers. They report that a battle took place on the morning of the 8th, at encampment Monroe. This place was attacked at 5 o'clock in the morning, and a brisk firing kept up by both parties until 8 o'clock when the Indians retired. Col. Fanning was in command of about 250 regulars, and Capt. Percy in command of 89 friendly Indians. Capt. Mellon U. S. Army was killed. Lt. J. T. McLaughlin and 14 privates were wounded. The hostiles were estimated at 3 or 400 strong. When the Indians retired, the friendly Indians yelled at and taunted them all they could to renew the attack—but not a syllable or gun was heard from them. This account, as far as it goes, you may depend upon.—I had it from Capt. Percy. In haste yours.

The above intelligence is confirmed by the arrival at this place on Tuesday night last, of the steamer Cincinnati, Capt. Curry. The attack on Fort Mellon (Encampment Monroe's at Lake Monroe) was made, it is supposed, by Philip and his gang.—The battle was furiously contested. The loss on the side of the hostiles is not known.

The Santee was lying off on the Lake not far from the Fort, in waiting for the embarkation of the troops to transport them to Volusia, in obedience to an order of Gen. Jesup. Lt. Thomas left the post during the engagement, and succeeded in getting on board the Santee, playing upon the hostiles the six pounder in the boat with great effect.

This action must have taken place before the information of the truce could have been received by those Indians who made the attack. Information of it had not been then received by Col. Fanning.

The forces at fort Mellon returned to Volusia on the 11th. No Indians having been seen about the Fort from the 8th up to the 11th.

It is the general opinion that the above affair will not break up the truce now existing, nor have any effect on the course the Indians will pursue in relation to closing the war by yielding themselves up for removal.

*Eleven days later from England.*—The ship Chatham arrived at this port last evening from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 21st January. We have papers of that date.

The London papers states that there are not now any great complaints of the scarcity of money.—Discounts were easier and there was every



appearance of commercial men getting out of their recent embarrassments in two or three months. Confidence was reviving.

The influenza had been seriously injurious to the interests both of public and private business in London. On the 16th, 90 clerks were absent from the Bank of England, and on the 18th, the inconvenience was aggravated to a more serious degree by the absence of 130. Similar inconvenience was felt at all other public establishments. Whole families were laid up, their business suspended and shops shut.

Advices from Paris bring nothing new. In the Chamber of Deputies the ministers have been repeatedly outvoted. M. Odillon Barrot offered a resolution recognizing the nationality of Poland, which was carried, after a warm debate, against the ministers, by a vote of 180 to 181.

From Spain there is nothing important.

Great sensation had prevailed in London owing to Esdail's banking house having temporarily stopped payment. It entirely subsided on the following day, as it was ascertained that the firm had a great surplus, after paying the persons who did business with them. The firm had also large estates.

There was a report in London on the 19th, that Louis Philippe had been again shot at. It was not believed.

Letters from Malta affirm that the plague has found its way into the island, having been imported by some of the trading vessels from Constantinople.

The health of the King of Sweden was still declining, and his life was considered very precarious.

German papers state that the Emperor of Russia had published an ukase greatly relaxing the severe prohibitory regulations which hitherto prevailed against the introduction of foreign manufacture to that country.

**Earthquake at Quebec.**—The Quebec Gazette says, that a smart shock of an earthquake occurred on the 9th ult., about three o'clock in the morning. It was accompanied with a rumbling noise, and two or three concussions, as if a heavy but soft weight had fallen on some elastic substance. Many persons were awoke out of their sleep and alarmed by the unusual noise and motion, which they ascribed to various supposed accidental causes. Those who were awake at the commencement, say that the whole passed off in a few seconds. No material damage was done, besides throwing down some articles of furniture, and breaking some panes of glass. The shock extended to the country all around Quebec. The air was clear, and the thermometer about zero.

**Commerce of Philadelphia.**—We take from the Public Ledger the following account of some of the imports at that place the last year, as also an account of the same articles imported in 1835, by which it will be seen, that there has been a great increase. The same is true in relation to almost every other article of commerce.

	1835.	1836.
Sugar imported,	9,752 tons	11,487
Coffee do	6,195 tons	6,265
Railroad iron do	1,596 tons	5,039
Molasses, (a decrease)	1,279,196 bbls.	1,095,981
Brandy, (a decrease)	329,530 galls	321,600
Wool,	542 tons	666
Steel,	232 tons	379
Tea,	249 tons	466

There are now in the United States 382 Catholic churches, 348 priests, 80 seminaries, and 17 converts.

**Shocking Accidents.**—On Friday morning a watchman in one of the Lowell Factories, while at work, accidentally came into collision with some of the machinery, and was crushed to death instantly.

We also learn that while the forenoon train of cars were going to Lowell, on Friday, one of the men employed upon the road, got upon the top of the baggage car, for the purpose of giving some orders when his head struck one of the bridges, and he was thrown off, dreadfully wounded, and it was thought he could not recover.—*Boston Mercantile Journal.*

**Bran Bread and lasses.**—Graham is lecturing to the young men in Boston on Courtship.

A case of the Varioloid, (the small pox in a mild form,) now exists in Brunswick village, in the person of Mr Anthony C. Raymond. Mr R. has recently been a journey to New York and Philadelphia, where it is supposed he caught the disease. He had been confined to his house about a week previous to the nature of his disorder being discovered—in consequence, quite a number of persons have been exposed to the disease.—*E. Baptist.*

On the 18th ult., there was quite an affray at Indianapolis between two members of the Indiana Legislature, Mr Profit of Pike, and Mr Jones of Vanderburgh. In the course of a debate Profit gave Jones the lie. After the adjournment Jones struck Profit two or three times when they were parted. Profit subsequently attacked Jones in the Legislative Hall, striking him with a hickory cane, and J. returned the blows with his fist. Both were armed with deadly weapons during the last encounter, Profit holding his knife in his hand. The House at the last dates, was investigating the affair.

The President has returned to the Court Martial their decision upon Gen. Scott's case for revision in consequence of its want of fulness and explicitness.

**Distribution of the Surplus Revenue.**—A committee of the Virginia Legislature have proposed to invest the portion of the Surplus coming to that State, in stock or loans until otherwise disposed of.

**A Duel.**—It is rumored from Washington, that Peyton has challenged Mr Gholson of Mississippi, and that the latter has accepted.

Since the Mob in New York, Flour is said to have advanced fifty cents a barrel.

The imports at the port of New York last year, amounted to \$168,000,000—1st quarter 27,000,000—2d do 28,000,000—3d do 96 millions—4th do 17 millions—being an increase on the preceeding year of 30 millions.

The valley of the Mississippi, is said to be the greatest coal field in the world covering a space of 900,000 square miles, equal to the half of Europe, —or 1500 miles in length by 600 in breadth.

The Legislature of Maryland have elected the Hon. JOHN S. SPENCE a Senator in Congress for six years from the 4th of March next. Dr. S. is now in the Senate, having heretofore been elected to serve out the remainder of the term of the late Mr Goldsborough.

A case was tried in the Court of Common Pleas for the recovery of a hundred dollars deposited as a bet and lost, and which the loser demanded back again and brought on the present action for its recovery. The parties were James L. Horton who lost the \$100 betting that Martin Van Buren would not receive 15 000 majority of the votes of this state, and John J. Marshall in whose hands the money was deposited. Judge Ulshoeffer presiding, charged directly in favor of the plaintiff, and said the only questions for enquiry were: Had the defendant \$100 belonging to the plaintiff, and was it placed in his hands as a stakeholder? If the Jury were satisfied that such was the case, the plaintiff was entitled to a verdict. Verdict for the plaintiff \$100 and 6 cents cost.—*N. Y. Star.*

### Marriages.

In this town, on Thursday evening last, by Rev. Mr Webber, Rev. Obed Wilson, of Bingham, to Mrs. MARTHA COX, of this town.

In Jefferson, Mr George Weeks, Merchant, to Miss Caroline Haskell.

In Farmington, David Mitchell, Esq. of Temple, to Miss Sarah Higgins.

In Chesterville, Mr Nathan Witham, to Miss Mami Lufkin.

In Montville, Capt. Hiram Knowlton, to Miss Lorana Hunt.

In Union, Mr Benjamin Brown, Jr. to Miss Deborah Colomore.

In North Yarmouth, Mr Nathaniel Jordan, to Miss Masiah B. Titcomb.

In Hartford, on Sunday evening last, by Edward Blake, Esq. Mr — Fick, of Leeds, to Miss Eliza Kimball, daughter of Heber Kimball, Esq. of Turner.

### Deaths.

In this town, on Monday the 27th ult. Mr Abner Ham, aged 21. On Wednesday, the 1st inst. Oscar, son of Mr Diah Pratt, aged 3 years.

In Cornish, Mr Samuel Boynton, a soldier of the revolution, aged 82. Soon after he joined the army in 1775, Mr B. was captured by the British, and carried to Halifax, where he remained six months in close confinement.

At Philadelphia, Feb. 14, Capt. Robert Given, formerly of Brunswick in this State.

Died, in Winthrop, on the 16th ult. Mrs. LURA L., wife of Mr. Amos Downing, aged 31 years.

In her was exemplified, in an eminent degree, the excellence and efficacy of the Christian religion;—though her sufferings were great, she endured them with mildness, without a murmur or complaint—though strongly attached to her family and friends, and blessed with every thing that could make life desirable, yet she willingly gave them them all up,—and though her death was sudden, she met it with composure, as a welcome messenger sent to convey her to the long-looked for abode of happiness and joy in the blissful presence of her Savior. By this afflicting visitation of Providence, a kind husband is deprived of an endeared companion, a helpless infant of the tender care and affection of a mother, relations and acquaintance of a much beloved friend, and the Church of Christ of a valuable and exemplary member.—*Communicated.*

### BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, Feb. 25.

Reported for the Boston Advertiser.

At market, 415 Beef Cattle.

Prices—Beef Cattle—Extra at \$8 25 a 8 50; first quality 7 50 a 8; second quality 6 75 a 7 25; third quality 5 a 6 25.

Sheep—Lots from \$4 to 7. Swine—none.

### PAINTS, OIL, &c.

T. B. MERRICK keeps constantly on hand a large stock of Paints, Oil, Varnish, Paint Brushes, Spts. Turpentine, &c. which he sells at very low prices. Feb. 14, 1837.

### NOTICE.

THE Subscriber, desirous of closing his business, has left his notes and book accounts with H. W. PAINE, Esq. Those indebted may avoid cost, by making payment before the first of March next.—All who have claims against him, will much oblige by leaving the amount with Mr Paine. S. R. WEBBER. Hallowell, Feb. 1837.

### MEDICINE.

T. B. MERRICK keeps an extensive assortment of Medicine of first quality, which will be sold at fair prices. Feb. 14, 1837.

### MEDICAL.

DR. KNAPP informs his friends and the public that he will resume his practice in the Village of Winthrop, early in the spring. Those in want of his professional service are respectfully invited to call upon him. Winthrop, Feb. 6th, 1837.

MACHINE CARDS of the best quality, for sale constantly by T. B. MERRICK, Nos. 6 & 7, Kennebec Row. Feb. 14, 1837.

### W. I. GOODS & GROCERIES

OF all kinds, for sale by T. B. MERRICK, Nos. 6 & 7, Kennebec Row. Feb. 14, 1837.

### New Paper.

It is proposed to issue every Saturday evening in the city of New York, a weekly paper of the Largest dimensions, in a quarto form, entitled

### THE WORLD!

Literary, Poetical, Fashionable, Dramatical, Sporting, Musical, &c. &c. &c.

The first number of which will be published on Saturday Evening, January 21st, 1837.

TERMS—\$5 a Year—Single numbers 12 1-2 cts.

Advertisements inserted at the usual rates.—An edition of 20,000 will be printed of the first number, as a Prospectus, to be circulated throughout every portion of the United States and Canadas.

Editors publishing the above Prospectus will be entitled to a free exchange.

WILLIAM W. SNOWDEN,  
JOSEPH M. CHURCH.

New York, Jan. 12th, 1837.—110 William St.



## Poetry.

## The Devoted.

"It was a beautiful turn given by a great lady, who being asked where her husband was, when he lay concealed for having been deeply concerned in a conspiracy, resolutely answered that she had hidden him. The confession caused her to be carried before the Governor, who told her that nothing but confession where she had hidden him could save her from the torture. 'And will that do,' said she. 'Yes,' replied the governor, 'I will pass my word for safety on that condition.' 'Then,' replied she, 'I have hidden him in my heart.'"

Stern faces were around her bent,  
And eyes of vengeful ire,  
And fearful were the words he spake;  
Of torture, stake and fire;  
Yet calmly in the midst she stood,  
With eyes undimmed and clear,  
And though her lip and cheek were white,  
She breathed no sigh of fear.

'Where is thy traitor spouse,' they said;  
A half formed smile of scorn,  
That curled upon her haughty lip,  
Was back for answer borne;  
'Where is thy traitor spouse?' again,  
In fiercer tones, they said;  
And sternly pointed to the rack,  
All rusted o'er with red!

Her heart and pulse beat firm and free—  
But in a crimson flood,  
O'er pallid lip, and cheek, and brow,  
Rushed up the burning blood!  
She spake,—but proudly rose her tones,  
As when in hall or bower,  
The haughtiest chief that round her stood,  
Had meekly owned her power.

'My noble lord is placed within  
A safe and sure retreat,—  
'Now tell us where, thou lady bright,  
As thou would'st mercy meet;  
Nor deem thy life can purchase his—  
He cannot 'scape our wrath,  
For many a warrior's watchful eye  
Is placed o'er every path.

But thou may'st win his broad estates,  
To grace thine infant heir,  
And live an honor to thyself,—  
So thou his haunts declare.  
She laid her hand upon her heart;  
Her eye flashed proud and clear,  
And firmer grew her haughty tread—  
'My lord is hidden HERE!

And if you seek to view his form,  
Ye first must tear away,  
From round his secret dwelling place,  
These walls of living clay.  
They quailed beneath her lofty glance—  
They silent turned aside,  
And left her all unharmed, amidst  
Her loveliness and pride.

## Miscellany.

## Newspaper Readers.

How endless is the variety of newspaper readers—and how hard it is to satisfy their wants. Mr. A believes he shall discontinue his paper because it contains no political news—and Mr. B is decidedly of the opinion that the same sheet dabbles too freely in the political movements of the day. C don't take it because it is *all one side*—and D whose opinion it generally expresses, does not like it because it is not severe enough upon the opposition. E thinks it does not pay due attention to fashionable literature—and N cannot bear the flimsy notions of idle writers. G will not suffer a paper to lie upon the table which ventures to express an opinion against Slavery—and H never patronized one that lacks moral courage to expose the evils of the day. I declares he does not want a paper filled with the hodge podge doings and undings of the Congress and the Legislature—and J considers that paper best which gives the greatest quantity of such proceedings. K patronizes the papers for the light and lively reading which they contain—and L wonders that the press does not publish Dewey's sermons, and such other "solid matter." M will not even read a paper that will not expose the evils of sectarianism—and N is decidedly of the opinion that the pulpit and the press should meddle with religious dogmas. O likes to read police reports—and P whose appetite is less morbid, would not have a paper in which these silly reports are printed in his house. Q likes anecdotes—and R won't take a paper that publishes them. S says that murder and dreadful accidents

ought not to be put into papers—and T complains that his miserable paper gave no account of that highway robbery last week. U says the type is too small—and V thinks it too large. W stops his paper because it contains nothing but advertisements—and all X wants of it is to see what is for sale. Y will not take the paper unless it is left at his door before sunrise—and Z declares he will not pay for it if left so early that it is stolen from his domicile before he is up. And last of all come the complaints of some of the ladies—who declare the paper very uninteresting because it does not every day contain a list of marriages—just as if it were possible for the poor printer to marry people, without a commission, and whether the parties will or no. But the variety of newspaper readers is too great for the present review—and we "give 'em up," with a determination to pursue the "even tenor of our way" in offering to the public such reading as in our humble opinion will prove most useful and interesting to them, as early in the morning as practicable.

SHORT SAYINGS.—There are great complaints of the great number of places where ardent spirit is sold. What occasions the supply? The demand. Were there no buyers there would be no sellers.

I like a good glass of liquor, says one.—What does he mean? Why one that will do the most speedy execution.

The best way to encourage sobriety is to set the example.

Your bill for spirit was large last year.—Add to it one hundred per cent, for loss of time, bad bargains, accidents, &c. &c. and then calculate the amount.

Ardent spirit was formerly placed upon the shelves of the apothecary, and sold by the 'drachm,' which was considered a dose. Could our forefathers view our dram shops, what a strange idea they would have of the health of this generation.

It is reason which distinguished man from the brute—what madness and folly, then, to indulge in the use of that which destroys reason, and abolishes the most important distinction between man and the beasts that perish.

The most appropriate motto for a spirit retailer's sign is, 'Beggars made here.'

If a young woman wishes to destroy herself, let her wed a man who frequents the tavern and the grog shop.

As well might the butcher cry, at every stroke of his knife, 'Live,' as for a man to drink to the health of another, when in the very act of destroying it.

Cannot friends meet without pouring fire down each other's throats? Is it friendship to assist in killing each other?

Ardent spirit as a drink, like the needle to the pole, always points to the prison, asylum, the poor house and the grave yard.

A glass or two, it is said, will do no harm; neither will the flitting of a moth around the flame of a candle; but alas! how few of them escape unhurt.

If all drunkards were once moderate drinkers, what security has any moderate drinker that he shall not become a drunkard?

## PROSPECTUS

OF THE

## MAINE FARMER

AND

## Journal of the Useful Arts.

Published every Tuesday morning, at Hallowell,

By WILLIAM NOYES.

EZEKIEL HOLMES, Editor.

This periodical has already been four years before the public. It is a work devoted to Agriculture and Mechanics;—a Journal published weekly for the purpose of affording the farmer and mechanic an organ through which they may speak upon subjects concerning their particular calling, and discuss questions relating exclusively to their respective interests. To those who are unacquainted with the paper we would further state, that our only and sole object is, the diffusion of practical matter without mingling it with that of the various parties and sects that are now in existence. In pursuance of this object we have struggled thus far, with the hope that we should ultimately be-

come favorably known to the people, and that they would generously extend a fostering hand to enable us to put into practice our plan more fully.—We have been to great expense in preparing ourselves with all suitable and necessary means for accomplishing our object in a respectable style, and furnishing such matter as shall be of vital importance to that part of the community whose interests we have espoused. Competent individuals have been engaged as correspondents; the various periodicals of the day are taken, and no pains spared to put us in possession of new and interesting matter at as early a date as possible.

In addition to this, we have determined to profit by the suggestion of a valued friend in regard to a kind of information as yet not found in any publication among us. It is well known, that in a free and Republican government the people, and especially the middling interest and productive classes, are not only deeply interested in the government, but are in fact a part and parcel of it. They are called upon to act in different capacities in towns, cities and plantations: to put into force the laws or statutes that are enacted for the well governing of society. Whoever therefore accepts any town office becomes not only an executor, but also an expounder of law, and even if he has no office, he becomes interested in the dispensation and interpretation of the Statutes under which, as a member of the community, he lives. The people therefore ought to understand well and truly a portion at least, if not the whole law of the land; and that they may do this some source of information is needed, where they can find the true exposition of the principles they seek and need to know.

In order therefore to make the people more thoroughly acquainted with the law, and enable them to judge correctly whether they themselves, or their servants do their duty or not, we have concluded to devote a portion of our paper (two pages if necessary) to the explanation of the Statute of our State, so far as relates to the common business of life. A part of our object is to point out the power and duty of town, parish and school district officers of all stations and grades, Coroners, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, &c. with forms for bonds of all kinds; articles of agreements, assignments, obligations, and all kinds of writings necessary in the transaction of common business, with such directions as will enable any man to make them himself. We shall in all cases give answers through the paper according to the best authority to any question relating to the above matters that may be proposed to us.

In short, we intend to make our paper, in addition to what it now is, a medium through which farmers, mechanics, traders, and even school-boys, can qualify themselves not only to do their own business, but to perform the duties of any office they may be called to fill in the district, town or parish in which they live.

In order to do this we have secured the assistance of a gentleman who is eminently qualified to fulfill his engagement, and thereby materially increased the expense of publishing our paper, and as we do not proportionably increase the price to subscribers, our list must first be increased to meet those expenses.

WILLIAM NOYES.

Hallowell, Feb'y 18, 1837.

TERMS.—The Farmer will be printed in quarto form on a "Royal Sheet" of fine white paper and small new type, every Tuesday morning at \$2.00 per annum if paid in advance, \$2.50 if payment is delayed beyond the year.

All money sent, or letters on business, must be directed, *post paid*, to WILLIAM NOYES, Hallowell.

Post Masters and others who procure six responsible subscribers, will be entitled to the seventh copy for one year gratis.

Publishers of papers in this State who will copy the above Prospectus two or three times shall receive a complete volume of the Farmer of last year, or this if they prefer, sent to their order.

## Plaster Paris.

The subscriber has on hand 300 tons Ground Plaster Paris, put up in casks of 500 lbs. and 334 lbs. Also it will be sold by the bushel to those who wish. Farmers wishing to secure a supply of this valuable dressing for their farms will do well to call in the early part of the season.

ALEX. H. HOWARD.

Hallowell, Dec. 19, 1836.

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